

REMARKS

The claims have been amended as to form but not as to merit.

Accordingly, reconsideration is respectfully requested, for the rejection of the claims as unpatentable over GRANDIN in view of KOSKI, or further in view of BAKER et al., or still further in view of BARTLETT et al. or OKOPNY or DONAVAN. The rejection falls down on GRANDIN.

What is said to be "releasable latching means" in GRANDIN at 26, 27, is not releasable latching means at all. Instead, it is a pair of knobs 26 secured to the outer wall 14 of the upper horizontal member 24, the knobs having threaded vertical bores. An additional pair of spaced apertures 27 are bored and threaded into the pair of knobs 26. This is intended as a permanent assembly. This is not releasable, much less by any latching arrangement.

By contrast, in the present invention, the work surface elements are latched to the uprights without the use of bolts.

Moreover, GRANDIN does not provide selectable and interchangeable work surface elements. The work surfaces of GRANDIN, shown in 52 and 74, obviously cannot be interchanged, as they are of different lengths and must fit on the respective side supports.

KOSKI does not improve the rejection on GRANDIN. KOSKI teaches a sink unit, but not an aperture for waste disposal, nor does KOSKI teach any of the claimed features that GRANDIN lacks, as pointed out above. KOSKI is not collapsible, and the work surface elements are not releasably engaged, or selectable, or interchangeable. KOSKI simply teaches a plurality of pre-constructed modules, which can be moved into position to form an extended bar.

The other secondary references may indeed teach the secondary features for which they were applied, but as none of these overcomes the fundamental deficiencies of GRANDIN pointed out above, it is not believed to be necessary to discuss these further references at this time.

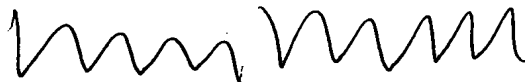
In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, therefore, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Robert J. Patch, Reg. No. 17,355
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

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